

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT YOUR MAILBOX

Are you getting ready to install a new mailbox or newspaper delivery box along a county road? Here are some things you need to know:



Mailbox installations must conform to U.S. Postal Service regulations and follow standards set by the Lapeer County Road Commission. The Road Commission has approved these standards to provide safer roadways for county residents and the motoring public.

Location

- On paved roads, the roadside face of the box must be offset the width of the shoulder plus 8 inches.

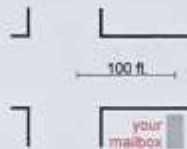


- On gravel roads, the roadside face of the box must be 8 inches from the edge of the traveled portion of the roadway.
- On curbed streets, the roadside face of the box must be 8 inches from the face of the curb.
- When a mailbox is installed in the vicinity of a guardrail, the box should be placed behind the guardrail when possible with the face of the box even with the back of the rail.



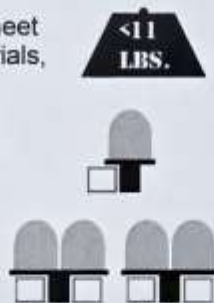
- Mailbox height should be 42"-48" from the bottom of the box to the road surface. Contact your local postmaster for the recommended height in your area.

- When a mailbox is located at an intersection, the box must be a minimum of 100 feet beyond the center of the intersection in the direction of the postal route. If traffic at the intersection exceeds 400 vehicles per day, the distance must be increased to 200 feet.



Structure

- Mailboxes must be constructed of sheet metal, plastic or similar weight materials, with weight not to exceed 11 lbs.
- Newspaper boxes may be mounted below the mailbox on the side of the mailbox support.
- No more than two mailboxes can be mounted on a support structure.
- Mailbox supports shall not be set in concrete.



- The mailbox support shall consist of a single 4x4 inch square wooden post, 4 inch diameter wooden post, or light gage pipe with a strength no greater than 2 inch standard steel pipe. It shall be embedded no more than 24 inches in the ground.
- If the mailbox installation does not meet these structural guidelines, the mailbox and its support will be considered hazardous to motorists.
- Exceptions must be approved in writing by the Lapeer County Road Commission.



If a mailbox is found to be in violation of the above criteria and standards, the owner will be cited with a removal order in accordance with MCL 247.171, which allows the owner 30 days to remove the mailbox. If the owner does not comply, the Road Commission at the owner's expense shall remove the mailbox.

Occasionally, the Road Commission, as a result of its daily activities such as grading and snow plowing, may accidentally strike, knock down or damage a mailbox. Because of statutory responsibility of the Road Commission to maintain the roadways and County right-of-ways, the agency is not held liable or responsible for any damage caused to private installations located within those roads and/or right-of-ways. However, the Road Commission shall offer the owner a replacement post and mailbox, which will be available at the Road Commission office.